

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



257298

Date: Friday, June 16, 2006

From: Michael Harris, OSC

Subject: Initial POLREP

Universal Form Clamp Fire
840 25th Street, Bellwood, IL
Latitude: 41.8772
Longitude: -87.8636

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:	6/14/2006	Response Authority:	CERCLA/OPA
Mob Date:	6/14/2006	Response Type:	Emergency
Completion Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
CERCLIS ID #:		Incident Category:	Removal Action
RCRIS ID #:		Contract #	
FPN#		Reimbursable Account #	

Site Description

On June 14, 2006, an explosion and subsequent fire broke out at the Universal Form Clamp Facility (Universal) located at 840 25th Street in Bellwood, Illinois. Universal distributes a variety of petroleum-based products to primarily commercial customers. The fire began at approximately 9:00 a.m. and was extinguished by the Bellwood Fire Department around 11:30 a.m. Universal employees were transferring material from a 55-gallon drum into a mixing tank. During the transfer, a spill occurred. It appears that an unknown source ignited the vapors from the spill resulting in an explosion. Six injuries were reported, four employees and two fire fighters.

Responders to the scene included the Bellwood Fire Department, the Maywood Fire Department, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, the Occupational and Safety Health Agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Universal Contractors. During fire fighting activities, Maywood Fire Department's HazMat Team took the lead on the environmental emergency response including air monitoring. Results from the air monitoring activities indicated that there were no risk to the surrounding community.

After the fire was extinguished, Universal Form Clamp hired HazChem Environmental Corporation (HazChem) as their clean-up contractor to recover the run-off water, containing oils and solvents, generated by the fire fighting activities. Run-off water from the fire fighting activities was contained by blocking the storm sewer drains located in the building and the parking lot area. HazChem collected approximately 60,000 gallons of run-off water. The water is being staged in Baker Tanks until disposal is arranged. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District collected and monitored water samples from the sewers and Addison Creek. According to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, none of the run-off water made it to Addison Creek, but it appears that some water may have migrated to the sanitary canal through the sewers.

Current Activities

Universal insurance agents as well as their insurance investigators performed assessment activities. Contractors installed temporary fencing around the affected area of the facility.

Planned Removal Actions

U.S. EPA will continue to oversee removal actions.

Next Steps

Clean-up contractors need to develop a health and safety plan for clean-up activities as well as conduct a removal assessment. At this time, the facility is still shut down pending further investigation by the U.S. Chemical Safety Board.

Key Issues

None

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

[epaosc.net/UniversalFormClampFire](http://epaossc.net/UniversalFormClampFire)